



US009093586B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Lentine et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 9,093,586 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Jul. 28, 2015**

(54) **PHOTOVOLTAIC POWER GENERATION
SYSTEM FREE OF BYPASS DIODES**

(75) Inventors: **Anthony L. Lentine**, Albuquerque, NM
(US); **Murat Okandan**, Edgewood, NM
(US); **Gregory N. Nielson**, Albuquerque,
NM (US)

(73) Assignee: **Sandia Corporation**, Albuquerque, NM
(US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
patent is extended or adjusted under 35
U.S.C. 154(b) by 565 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **13/543,297**

(22) Filed: **Jul. 6, 2012**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2013/0269747 A1 Oct. 17, 2013

Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation-in-part of application No. 13/164,483,
filed on Jun. 20, 2011, now Pat. No. 8,736,108, which
is a continuation-in-part of application No.
12/914,441, filed on Oct. 28, 2010, now Pat. No.
9,029,681, which is a continuation-in-part of
application No. 11/933,458, filed on Nov. 1, 2007,
application No. 13/543,297, which is a
continuation-in-part of application No. 12/957,082,
filed on Nov. 30, 2010, now Pat. No. 8,329,503, which
is a continuation-in-part of application No.
11/933,458, filed on Nov. 1, 2007.

(51) **Int. Cl.**
H01L 31/05 (2014.01)
H02J 1/10 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
CPC **H01L 31/0504** (2013.01); **Y02E 10/50**
(2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

USPC 307/43
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

7,932,462 B2	4/2011	Van Riesen et al.
8,067,295 B2	11/2011	Yagiura et al.
8,093,492 B2	1/2012	Hering et al.
2004/0187912 A1*	9/2004	Takamoto et al. 136/255
2007/0227579 A1	10/2007	Buller et al.
2008/0099063 A1	5/2008	Armstrong et al.

(Continued)

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

WO WO 2010081746 A2 7/2010

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

International Search Report mailed Feb. 11, 2014 for PCT/US2013/
049165.

Primary Examiner — Robert Deberadinis

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Martin I. Finston

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A photovoltaic power generation system that includes a solar panel that is free of bypass diodes is described herein. The solar panel includes a plurality of photovoltaic sub-modules, wherein at least two of photovoltaic sub-modules in the plurality of photovoltaic sub-modules are electrically connected in parallel. A photovoltaic sub-module includes a plurality of groups of electrically connected photovoltaic cells, wherein at least two of the groups are electrically connected in series. A photovoltaic group includes a plurality of strings of photovoltaic cells, wherein a string of photovoltaic cells comprises a plurality of photovoltaic cells electrically connected in series. The strings of photovoltaic cells are electrically connected in parallel, and the photovoltaic cells are micro-system-enabled photovoltaic cells.

16 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets

